

**Sonoda & Kobayashi Intellectual Property** was founded March 1998, with the specific intention of creating a Japanese IP law firm with a **global mindset**, to foster **stress-free communication** and to provide **exceptional services**.

We believe that clear communication and transparency are the keys to mutual understanding. By adopting this unique working style, combined with expertise in Intellectual Property Law and Technology, Sonoda & Kobayashi has become the representative for many leading global and domestic companies in a wide spectrum of activities, becoming one of the most trusted firms in Asia for the prosecution and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

*We take pride in being  
a world-class IP law firm.*

## SERVICES

Our legal services cover the **full range of IP matters**.

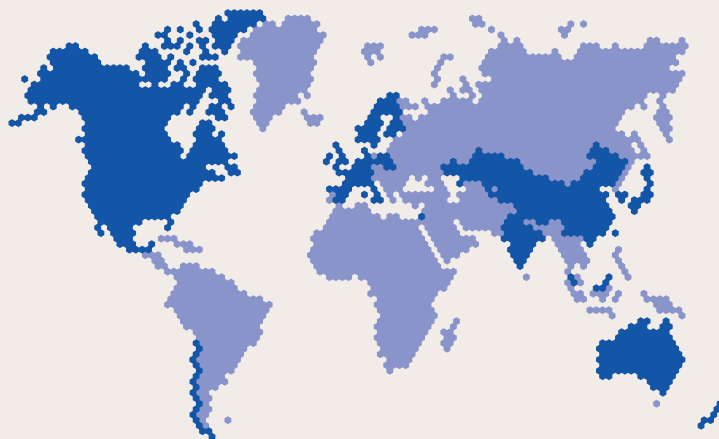
Our Japanese Patent Attorneys and Engineers often travel abroad to meet clients and discuss their commercial strategies and provide legal updates. They also help with streamlining internal corporate procedures and with establishing the best IP practices for Japan, becoming a real extension of in-house IP departments.

- Patent and trademark prosecution
- Commercial and strategic analysis of intellectual property portfolios
- Local IP department support services
- Litigation, oppositions and nullity actions
- License negotiations, expert opinions, FTO searches and opinions, prior art searches
- Patent
- Trademark
- Utility model
- Design
- Copyrights
- Unfair competition laws



Our unique combination of professional expertise and international experience allows us to provide each and every one of our global clients with customized IP strategies, and to continue our commitment towards offering the highest quality IP services available.

*More than 80% of our clients are multinational corporations headquartered outside Japan.*



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*We protect your innovations in a constantly changing IP landscape.*



### EXPERTISE

Reliable legal services in intellectual property can only be provided by having a deep understanding of technologies and legal issues.

Our patent attorneys and engineers are equipped not only with world-class education, but also hands-on experience, often directly acquired on factory floors, which can be the crucial difference in difficult cases. Our highly skilled staff provide assistance and advice to our international clients in a wide range of technical fields:

- Mechanical and structural engineering
- Aeronautical and automotive engineering
- Electrical and electronic engineering
- Telecommunications
- Semiconductor technology
- Material physics
- Inorganic chemistry and metallurgy
- Polymer chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Biotechnology
- Pharmaceuticals
- Diagnostics
- Cosmetics
- Agribusiness
- Software
- AI

Our longstanding clients have entrusted us with their IP over the years due to the excellence of our legal experts. Their educational achievements, as demonstrated by PhD degrees and top university qualifications, along with their work experience, both in Japan and abroad, have shaped their present expertise in both IP law and foreign languages. Furthermore, our firm has an extensive and successful history in patent prosecution appeals and adversarial proceedings.



### TRANSLATION

High quality translation is crucial in intellectual property. Native speakers specializing in technical translation perform translation.

Our translation team consists of specialists with a variety of backgrounds, some with postgraduate experience and others holding doctorates, as well as patent attorneys.

Our translators work together with patent attorneys and patent specialists with the goal to provide the most reliable translations throughout prosecution, enforcement, challenges to validity, and patent term extension.

Our multi-talented translation team can also handle translations alone, without being entrusted with prosecution.

*We never seek to merely obtain a grant - we seek the strongest IP protection possible.*



*We value diversity while aiming for integration and harmonization with globalization.*



### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

We understand the legal and linguistic barriers our foreign clients face when prosecuting and enforcing intellectual property rights in Japan.

Therefore, we have a dedicated International Affairs Department, comprised of international attorneys and business people, which serves to bridge the gap between Japanese and Western cultures.

This department ensures that international clients benefit from clear communication and transparency, fostering mutual understanding through a client-focused and adaptable service.